Loss of Life and Property due to Flood and Drought

157. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the loss of life and property in the country due to floods and drought during the last one year and so far during the current year; and

(b) the amount of money given by way of relief due to such calamity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Statements indicating the extent of damage due to various natural calamities during 1997-98 and 1998-99 are given at *Annexure [see Appendix 184 Annexure No. 1]*

(b) A Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been constituted with annual contributions by the Centre and the State in the ratio of 3:1 to undertake relief and rehabilitation measures in the event of natural calamities like floods, droughts, cyclones, hailstorms, landslides, earthquakes, etc. In addition, additional assistance is provided to the States from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) in the event of a calamity of rare severity, if any.

During 1997-98, an allocation of Rs. 1263.71 crore was made to the State from the Calamity Relief Fund. In addition, additional assistance of Rs. 273.37 crore was released to some States from the NFCR for calamities of rare severity. For 1998-99, there is an allocation of Rs. 1328.15 crore to the States under CRF and the first instalment of Centre's share has already been released to the States.

Trout Fish Culture in the Hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh

158. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an ample scope of trout fish culture due to the availability of cold streams in a very big area in the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Uttar Pradesh have submitted a proposal to Government seeking external assistance for trout fish culture project worth abour Rs. 2 crore;

(c) whether Government have succeeded in obtaining external assistance; if so, by when this scheme is likely to be started; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. About 255 Km stream length is suitable for development of trout fishery in the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) to (d) The Government of India have received a project proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh in May, 1996 for seeking external assistance for the development of Trout Fish Farming in the hilly areas of the State. The Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance have informed that the proposal was posed to the French authorities for assistance under the Indo-French Financial Protocol in April, 1998, but the French authorities were of the view that since the proposal does not meet the technical and structural parameters required for eligibility, they cannot consider the proposal under the Indo-French Financial Protocol.

Pestilence in Cotton Crops in Andhra Pradesh

159. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been undertaken on the excessive pestilence in cotton crops in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the name of the agency doing this study;

(c) whether cotton crops in other countries are similarly affected; and

(d) the steps proposed to contain pestilence in cotton cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) A team of scientists of Indian Council of Agricltural research had undertaken a study the heavy losses suffered by farmers of Andhra Pradesh in cotton crop due to adverse wheather conditions and severe pest attack. The study was conducted in January, 1998 and covered the districts of Warrangal, Karimnagar and Khamman which were reportedly worst-affected. The team in its report has mentioned that Spodoptera and Heliothis have been the most serious pests causing heavy damage not only to cotton but also to sunflower, redgram, groundnut and chillies.

(c) Heliothis is a major pest of cotton in almost all cotton growing regions of the world.

(d) Steps proposed to be taken to prevent pestilence in cotton crop include:

(i) Implementation of Integrated pest Management (IPM) strategies by organising more Farmers Field Schools.

(ii) More effective surveillance to give fore-warning of pest attack to farmers.

(iii) Pre-season campaign in groups of villages to educate farmers in pests/ disease problems and safe and judicious use of pesticides.

(iv) Increased production and use of biocontrol agents like NPV and neem products for control of Heliothis.

(v) Public awareness through mass media and farmers' meets for success of IPM approach.

(vi) More vigorous action by quality control implementation agencies.

भारत को नई विदेशी कृषि प्रौद्योगिकी की आपूर्ति

160. **श्री मोहिन्दर सिंह कल्याण:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कौन-कौन से देश भारत को नई कृषि प्रौद्योगिकी प्रदान करने पर सहमत हुए हैं;

(ख) उन देशों के नाम क्या हैं जिनके साथ भारत ने उपर्युक्त अवधि के दौरान उक्त प्रयोजनार्थ समझौतों पर हस्ताक्षर किये हैं; और

(ग) इस संबंध में विस्तृत ब्यौरा क्या है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोमपाल): (क) और (ख) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान भारत ने कृषि अनुसंधान के क्षेत्र में संयुक्त राज्य अमरीका, आस्ट्रेलिया, इज़ाइल राज्य, त्रिनिदाद तथा टोबेगो गणतंत्र, ओमान सल्तनत, पेरू गणतंत्र तथा युगाण्डा गणतंत्र के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन/समझौतों पर हस्ताक्षर किये हैं।

(ग) इस सहयोग में अध्ययन दौरों/प्रशिक्षण के लिए वैज्ञानिकों की अदला बदली करना, जननद्रव्य तथा वैज्ञानिक सामग्री का विनिमय करना तथा दोनों पक्षों की आपसी सहमति से सहयोग के लिए पता लगाये गये अपने-अपने हित के क्षेत्रों में संयुक्त अनुसंधान प्रायोजनाएं चलाना शामिल हैं। समझौते ज्ञापन/समझौते द्विवर्षी कार्ययोजनाओं के जरिए, जिनमें दो देशों के बीच विनिमय हेतु निश्चित गतिविधियों का उल्लेख होता है, कार्यान्वित किये जाते हैं।

Crop Insurance Scheme in Orissa

161. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Crop Insurance Scheme has been introduced in every state;

(b) if so, the various crops to which the Insurance Scheme has been extended in Orissa; and

(c) the compensation likely to be given to the farmers for their crop loss during the year 1997-98 and 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The existing Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) is voluntary in nature and participation by the State is optional. 15 States